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The publication of this report in permanent form will aid in making it more accessible as a part of the literature of the country life movement. The limited edition published as *Senate Document*, No. 705, 60th Congress, 2nd Session, was soon exhausted and the only general distribution was made in the Pacific Northwest when the Spokane Chamber of Commerce reprinted the report to promote the country life movement in that region.

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*Land Problems and National Welfare:* By CHRISTOPHER TUR-NOR. (London and New York: John Lane Company. 1911. Pp. xvii, 344.)

This volume contains chapters treating of the landowner, the farmer and the rural laborer; followed by discussions of agricultural education, the question of land ownership, small holdings, agricultural organizations and the relation of land to the political questions of the Empire. It makes no pretense of being an historical, scientific or philosophical treatment but is the presentation of the views of an English landlord based upon his own experience and his observations in England and on the continent. Immediate causes are discussed but the trend of the economic forces which have made these problems is, apparently, not fully in the mind of the author. The book is valuable because of the descriptive material it contains. The author is familiar with the present system of land tenure in England and is able to describe its strength and weaknesses. He advises landlords to reform the land system on their own motion rather than wait until reform is forced upon them, and to study agriculture in order to be leaders in agricultural progress in the regions in which their estates lie. "The test of true patriotism for the agriculturist is the amount of food stuff that he can produce."

Much emphasis is given throughout the book to the great need of more intensive culture. The author regrets that during the last twenty-five years there has been a movement in the direction of a more extensive culture. This, of course, was occasioned by the falling price of wheat due to foreign competition.

"The English farmer met this competition and the resulting depression by reducing his expenditure on the land, by cutting down his labor bills, by largely diminishing the tillage, by plowing four inches deep instead of six inches, by working the soil less, and by putting less into it in the way of manure; also,

alas! in many cases he neglected the hedgerows, ditches and drains. In short he so reduced the expenditure on the whole operation of cultivating the land that he has starved the soil so that now it will not even pay for the decreased amount of care and money spent upon it."

Dairying suffered less from foreign competition than did grain farming. Much land formerly cultivated was converted into pastures and meadows. This change is regretted by the author because it does not conform to his reiterated phrase, "The test of true patriotism . . . . is the amount of foodstuff produced." In his insistent demands for a more intensive culture the author fails to appreciate fully the operation of the law of diminishing returns. One gets the impression from the book that the author would desire to have the agriculture of England so developed that it will enable England and her colonies to be self-sustaining from the agricultural standpoint. It is doubtful if the author holds fully in mind the fact that England developed into a great manufacturing and commercial country in order to manufacture and carry the commerce for a great colonial world which was rapidly being developed, and that there is no possibility of developing the agriculture of England to the point where the agricultural population will sustain the same relation in number to those in other occupations as is sustained on the average throughout the western world.

The book is written in a pleasing style and adds one important volume to the land reform literature of England. The author's viewpoint on questions of land reform is in close sympathy with that of Mr. Jesse Collings. There are long quotations on various subjects from the report of Roosevelt's Country Life Commission, and the whole trend and spirit of the book is that of the present time. Hence, the book is of value to one who wishes to know the present state of mind of the land reform leaders of England.

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*A History of the New England Fisheries.* By RAYMOND MCFARLAND. Publications of the University of Pennsylvania. Series of Political Economy and Public Law. (New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1911. Pp. 457. \$2.00.)

This book is a comprehensive review of the history and present condition of the New England fisheries, and as such it occupies a